/373 cont./

S
Sr
W
175
648

Before the arrival of the French garrison in 1865, the Sérère-none ruled supreme over the region. He was established as the traditional enemy of the Wolof, and from time to time he suffered from the incursions of his "tiédos" (2).

W
[624]

2. Tiédos: name given to the Wolof war chiefs of Cayor.

After the definitive installation of our troops at Thiès and especially after the running of the Dakar-Saint-Louis railroad in 1885, many Wolof came to settle near our fortified post; at the same time they benefited from our pacificatory presence by being able to create farm villages in the heart of None country. Diakhaté was established about 1875-1880 (some of its founders worked on the construction of the railroad line in 1884); Keur-Mamour was created at about the same time.

W
[464]

The Bambara villages are more recent: 1890-1895. These were the /374/ terrible years when Samory sacked the southern Sudan and the region of the Wassoulou (east of Beyla in Upper Guinea). Through the authorities, it seems, some of the Bambara and Wassoulonké freed by our troops were sent to Senegal where the policy of groundnut cultivation was in full development. Keur-Issa-Bambara and Karamoko were founded at this time.

S
[369]

The city of Thiès was not very important at that time; it had hardly more than a thousand inhabitants. Nevertheless, it began to play a primary role; its presence imposed peace in the region formerly so disturbed by the None brigandage or the incursions of Wolof warriors. Its presence facilitated the founding of villages, the number of which would cease to grow in the subsequent period; all of the land capable of supporting crops was utilized at the beginning of the century.

S
369
311
438

In the years preceding the Great War, the escale (1)

1. Escale: by extension signifies a stopping place, a commercial agglomeration.

/401 cont./

178 occupation may be. Imported products appear only at breakfast:
*262 bread, sweetened condensed milk, lumps of sugar. The other
[264 two meals are still always composed of four products, rice,
[439 millet, fish, and meat, which may be combined in different ways, and a fifth that is always present, oil. The single element of diversity comes from the more or less great variety and the more or less great quantity of vegetables and manioc that are incorporated into the traditional dishes, and, of course, the skillful proportion of condiments of all sorts.

*511 With a few exceptions (1), the study of the expenses of
*262
[177]

1. The more important exceptions are Nos. 39 and 43. These two units of consumption have entirely adopted European food habits, and are otherwise not comparable with the others. This is why we neglect them a little on this point.

our families for food is very nearly limited, aside from bread, milk, and sugar, to a description of the variations ascertained in the consumption of these few essential products.

One can state that in general all of our families consume rice by liking and millet by necessity. Rice is the food of choice, millet entering in only when the financial situation of the family demands it, or in order all the same to provide a little variety.

243 Rice is 30 to 35% more expensive than millet. It is culti-
● 311 vated on a small scale in a few wet zones in the countryside
[435 around Thiès, whereas millet grows nearly everywhere. The
*[511 truly productive rice zones closest to Thiès are the Casamance to the south and the lower course of the Senegal to the north. On the east it appears only with the upper course of this river and in the region /402/ drained by the Niger and its tributaries,
*262 in Guinea, and in the Sudan. In reality, it is an imported
177 product. The traditional diet of this region was primarily based on millet.

/5 cont./

177 244 early as 1560 Alvarez de Almada speaks of the abundant harvests of mantiga eaten fresh by the Mandingue /Mandingo/. In 1840 a Paris chemist, Rousseau, discovered the wealth of oil in the groundnut. In 1841 the brig "Zénith" transported 70 metric tons of nuts to Rouen. Protêt and Faidherbe encouraged this crop, which, in the framework of the colonial economic system, progressed rapidly from the coast toward the interior, thanks to the possibilities of the natural environment.

132 From the Senegal River in the north to the Casamance in the south, the climate of the country changes by successive transitions from Sahelian characteristics to Sudanese aspects. A long dry season of nine months in the north, shorter in the south, from October or December to May-June, contrasts with a "winter season" of three to five months, depending on the region. The frequency and the importance of the precipitations increase from north to south. They go from 350 millimeters in the region of Louga to 1,200 millimeters in that of Ziguinchor. Whereas the coast is moistened by the humid trade wind, the Ferlo to the east is like a desert. These conditions are nearly /6/ ideal for a 244 plant whose vegetative cycle is short -- about 120 days -- and which germinates easily in a slightly moistened soil, develops under heavy rains, and bears fruit best during the dry days that follow.

134 244 The soil conditions also seem to be wholly favorable. The plant is not very demanding with respect to fertility; essentially it requires a light soil, because the fructification is underground. The silico-argillaceous soils of the center of Senegal (the dek of the Ouoloff /Wolof/) and the sandy soils of the north (the dior of the Ouoloff) suit the groundnut perfectly.

496 244 311 The expansion of the area of cultivation, from the coast and the estuaries toward the interior, has been led by the railroads. The Dakar--Saint-Louis railroad, built in 1885, explains the essential role of Cayor in groundnut production at the beginning of the century, since it was along the Dakar-Niger line, achieved in 1888, that the groundnut front progressed toward the east. Today this front, which in the south has broken into the

/6/
edges of the woodlands of Casamance, has reached the Ferlo and the zone of the lateritic cuirasses of the east.

I. The Types of Groundnut Cultivation in Senegal

The very symbol of the product of "trade," the groundnut is essentially cultivated by the autochthonous peasants, who devote to it an important part of their activities.

1. The types of autochthonous cultivation. Whatever the place of the groundnut may be in the system of crops, one always finds, within the framework of the very short agricultural cycle of winter, the same techniques for the preparation of the soil, the same kinds of tillage.

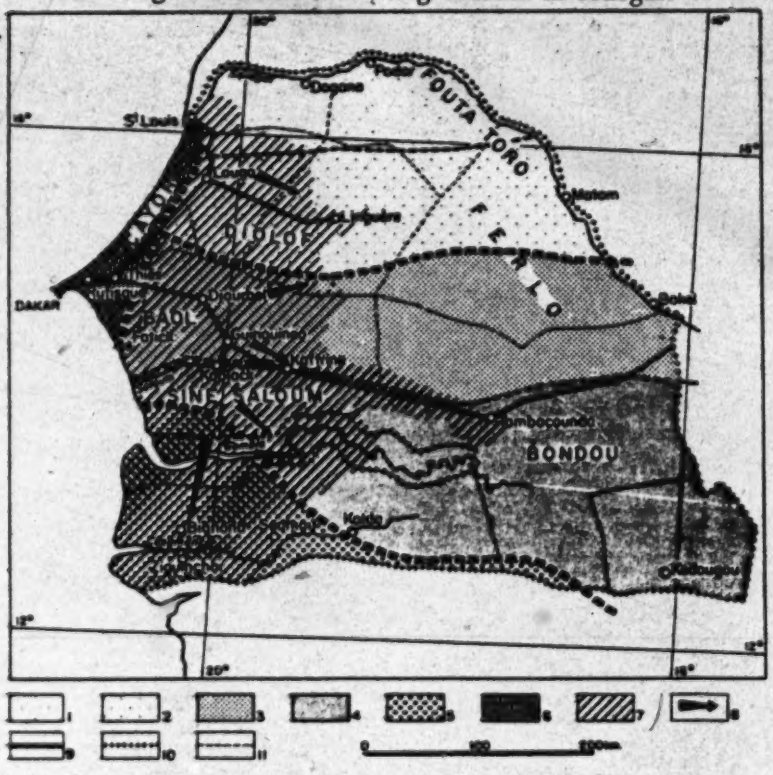
Everywhere in Senegal the traditional technical contrivances are primitive and permit only rather crude tillage. The lopping tool, the rhock, a kind of fork with two prongs, the hilaire, formed by a quite long handle and a flat blade in the shape of an ace of hearts, and the hoe, or daba, constitute the essential equipment.

In the spring, at the end of the dry season, the trees and bushes are topped with the lopping tool to 60 or 70 centimeters from the ground. Only the "Faidherbia," stripped of their leaves in winter, are spared. The branches are burned on the spot; their ashes are the sole fertilizer for the field recovered from the bush. The mutilated and burned trunks, the stumps left in place, give it an unfinished and disorderly appearance. Soon after the first rains, generally in June, one proceeds with the sowing. In the holes /7/ four to five centimeters deep, made with the daba or with the handle of the rhock, the cultivator puts one or two groundnut seeds and then, with the heel, covers them with soil. These holes, made in a row, are generally 30 centimeters apart. In July and August, one proceeds with several weedings and dressings with the daba in order to mellow the soil. In September the last cleaning out of foul grasses is done by hand. When the stalks wither, the shells have reached maturity,

/8 cont./

Fig. 1. Domain of the groundnut in Senegal.

102
103
131
244
●311
496



1. Sahelo-Saharan zone;
2. Sahelo-Sudanese zone;
3. Sudano-Sahelian zone .
4. Sudano-Guinea zone.
5. Guinea zone.
6. Coastal zone with relics of the Guinea woodland.
7. Groundnuts.
8. Progression of the domain of the groundnut.
9. Railroad.
10. Boundaries of the states.
11. Boundaries of the circles.

/9 cont./

795 have a moral obligation to deliver the products of their labor to the marabouts. With a remarkable ardor for clearing, these 244 Murids have improved new lands and have thus made a "ground- ●311 nut front" progressing toward the east, especially on both sides 795 of the Dakar-Niger railroad. This cultivation, however, presents grave dangers, because the Murids essentially concern themselves with groundnuts at the expense of millet; they use the cleared lands in the average proportion of 60% of the area for groundnuts and only 40% for millet. Crop rotation and fallowing are all too rarely respected, and the lands put under cultivation are all the more unstable since the groundnut front now abuts on the zone of the lateritic cuirasses of the east, ushering in the Sudan.

244 427 [464] [167] [113] The navétanes (4) are the seasonal workers who come

4. Fouquet, J., La traite des arachides dans le pays de Kaolack et ses conséquences économiques, sociales et juridiques /The trade of groundnuts in the region of Kaolack and its economic, social, and legal consequences/. Law thesis, Montpellier, 1951, 262 pp.

from the Sudan in particular and, up to 1958, from the north of Guinea. They cultivate the groundnut for the benefit of [466] the employer, or diatigui, according to the clauses of a ver- [465] bal contract. The employer furnishes the cleared ground, the seed, lodgings, and food. The navétane prepares the land, sows, weeds, and gathers the harvest. Actually, he devotes scarcely three to four half-days per week in work for the benefit of the diatigui. He utilizes the rest of his time for clearing and cultivating for himself. This labor is very costly for the employer, who is often obliged to borrow at prohibitive rates in order to feed the navétane. Moreover, this system presents grave dangers, because the temporary immigrant, clearing and cultivating land for which he feels no attachment,

22: Winterbotham et al. K-4 (no date) 1944 MS37 Senegal MS 37

most striking topography. In spite of this, there are few wide horizons, for much of the surface is covered with high bush. [133] [137]

The Coastal Belt

The Cape Verde peninsula protects the south of the coast from the Canary current and there is a marked contrast between the smooth sandy shoreline to its north and the muddy estuaries to its south. From St. Louis to Dakar no rivers reach the sea. Behind the dunes which back the coast is a depression into which, baulked of their normal goal, many small seasonal streams empty themselves. This depression is marshy during and shortly after the rains, and at certain places shallow lakes persist. A wider and more permanent area of swamps lies east of St. Louis. It is formed by distributaries of the Senegal and replenished each year by its flood. Lake Guiers is a large perennial sheet of water at the eastern edge of this marshland.

The Interior Plain

North and east of the railways and south and west of the great curve of the Senegal there is a broad Tertiary plain. This is, in effect, a southward extension of the Sahara, and, like that of Mauritania, its surface is formed of low fixed dunes and shallow clay depressions. The general direction of these features is north-east and south-west. Immediately west of Thiès is a prominent line of hills running north and south. It is formed by an outcrop of Lower Eocene strata dipping eastward, and it is covered by the Forest of Thiès. For most of the year the rather friable top soil is dry, but the depressions become bands of swamp for a few months. Across this general alinement of relief two major valleys run from east to west. One is that of the Ferlo, which flows into Lake Guiers, and the other is that of the Nielloumolé and the Maouré, which are the upper sections of the Sine. The general pattern is edged by the flood plain of the Senegal and its subsidiary channels. The longest of these latter breaks off just below Diorbivol and does not rejoin the main stream until below Podor. It encloses the Île à Morfil, which averages 8 miles wide and is over 300 miles long. Most of the plain is covered with thornland or poor grass-woodland, but much of the land in the extreme south-west is highly cultivated. [137] [134] [137] [311]

The South

In the Casamance Territory relief is slightly more varied. The valleys are flat and annually flooded, but the country between rises

22:Winterbotham et al. K-4 (no date) 1944 MS37 Senegal MS37

137 rainfall of from 20 to 60 inches. In appearance it is reminiscent of a park or orchard, with well-spaced trees or small clumps of trees projecting well above the herbaceous layer, and the most characteristic trees are from 18 to 45 feet tall. The most frequent in Senegal are the African locust bean, the tallow tree (*Detarium senegalense*), the ginger-bread plum or pomme du cayor (*Parinari macrophylla*), various legumes (*Cassia sieberiana*, *Entada africana*, *Acacia sieberiana*, *Albizzia ferruginea*, *Prosopis africana*, *Cordyla africana*, and *Pterocarpus erinaceus*), the Borassus palm (*Borassus aethiopum*), *Combretum glutinosum*, *Terminalia macroptera*, *Sterculia setigera*, *Cola cordifolia*, and the Meni oil tree. Shrubs and climbing woody plants are locally associated with the trees, but plants growing on the trunks and branches are generally absent. Parasites of the mistletoe family, however, are common. Most of the trees lose their leaves at the advent of the dry season. The grasslands consist mainly of grasses of the tribe Andropogoneae.

Excluding the Casamancian area, the Guinea subzone occupies two small regions north-west and south-east of the Gambia. At one time parts of this subzone were covered by dense forests, but to-day [31] there are only scattered relicts. Much of the country is cultivated, and the rest is subjected to the continued degrading influences of fire, grazing, and shifting cultivation. As a consequence, a degraded brushwood on impoverished soil represents the weed flora of several years' fallow. This is cut down, and the cultivation of ground-nuts [24] and cereals follows for a period of years; after which the ground is again allowed to go fallow. Many of the weeds are of American or Indian origin.

The Casamancian Area. The Casamancian area (Vol. I, p. 101) is the most tropical part of the colony. The Casamance river and the coastal channels are bordered up to tidal limits by thick mangrove-woodland. Behind this there are often marshy clearings, now [24] frequently transformed into rice-fields, and stretches of forest communities. Swamp-forests and thickets have screw-pines, palms (*Raphia*, *Calamus*), and bamboos. There are also frequent clumps of oil palm. In the remnants of high forest legumes are abundant and include species of *Afzelia*, *Dialium*, *Daniellia*, *Erythrophloeum*, *Pentaclethra*, *Parkia*, and *Acacia*. Noteworthy trees of the forest patches are a dragon's tree (*Dracaena*), the pattern wood (*Alstonia congensis*), the African teak (*Chlorophora excelsa*), and the silk-cotton tree (*Ceiba pentandra*). Many of them have a height of more than 60 feet.

22:Winterbotham et al. K-4 (no date) 1944 MS37 Senegal MS 37 Wolof MS 30

S 1797 with which the Society of the Holy Spirit was united in 1848. About the same time a house of the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception (the Blue Sisters) was established at Dakar, which has been the Roman Catholic metropolis of French West Africa ever since.

In 1906, on the separation of Church and State in France, the government subsidies to the Roman Catholic missions were withdrawn. In 1930 the Roman Catholics in Senegal had 67 European S [162] priests, sisters, and lay workers aided by 175 native catechists and S [368] teachers. Professing Roman Catholics numbered 22,300. A magnificent cathedral, the work of many years, was consecrated at Dakar in 1936.

The only Protestant mission in Senegal is that of the Société des S [162] Missions Évangéliques de Paris, which began work in the colony in 1863. Its adherents number about a hundred.

8. DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION AND INLAND TOWNS

Distribution of Population

S *Senegal*

S 161 Senegal is the third most densely populated colony, with an average of 21·58 persons per square mile and a total population in 1937 of 1,666,374. The distribution, however, varies greatly within the colony itself. The regions of Fouta and Ferlo are almost uninhabitable, while the provinces of Baol, Sine-Saloum, and Thiès have more than 50 persons per square mile. The coastal provinces of Bignona and Ziguinchor, south of the Gambia, are equally closely S [311] settled. The left bank of the Senegal, roughly from Bakel to Podor, [36] supports a fairly dense agricultural population.

Growth has been steady, the figures for 1921, 1926, and 1931 being 1,225,523, 1,318,287, and 1,584,273 respectively. There is no doubt that the colony is capable of supporting many more inhabitants than it does at present.

S 162 563 *Natives.* More than 580,000 Ouolofs live in Senegal. These are among the most energetic and intelligent peoples of the Federation, and they provide the bulk of the famous Senegalese Tirailleurs. W [162] There are about 250,000 each of Sérères, Mandingos, and Fulani, [701] and 150,000 Toucouleur. Broadly speaking, the Ouolofs live north and east of Dakar, the Sérères south-east thereof, the Toucouleur